

## “The Word!”

### I. **INTRO:**

#### A. Why Gospel of John?

1. 1st, I was asked again why I don't teach from Genesis to Revelation.
  - a) **A: Why would I?** The books are not chronological.
2. I'm at the beginning of my 3rd time through the NT; I haven't done John since 1999(10 yrs); I wanted to get back to 1 of the gospels; John is my favorite book of the bible; maybe its my New Years gift to myself.
  - a) **Why is it my favorite?** It's *Simply Christ!* - It's back to basics.
  - b) John is like **“a pool in which a child may wade & an elephant can swim!”**

#### B. Why did John write a 4th gospel? (last written)

- a) **Matthew** wrote a **masterpiece**; **To Jews**; Portrays Jesus as **“The Messiah”**.
  - (1) Tells us what Jesus **said!**
- b) **Mark** gives a **snapshot**; **To Romans**; Portrays Jesus as **“The Servant”**.
  - (1) Tells us what Jesus **did!**
- c) **Luke** gave **detail & chronology**; **To Greeks**; Portrays Jesus as **“The Man”**.
  - (1) Tells us what Jesus **felt!**
- d) **John** declares Jesus' **deity & belief**; **To the World**; Portrays Jesus as **“Divine”**.
  - (1) Tells us what Jesus **was!** **Read - Jn.20:31**(Key verse)
  - (2) **Deity** - **“Jesus is the Christ”** (to make His deity crystal clear).
    - (a) **Coin**: 2 sides of a **coin** are both valid, so **Jesus** has 2 natures, both valid!
  - (3) **Belief** - **“that believing you might have life in His name”** (forgiveness & brought near to God) [**Believe** is key word; 98 x's]
- e) **Illustration**: In the San Diego Charger game yesterday, the game is more complete when shot from several different angles. {side-lines, end-zone, overhead, even blimp}
  - (1) Each sees from a little different viewpoint, thus a little diff slant/angle.
  - (2) **Thus the 4 gospels doing the same.**
- f) **John** writes **topically** not chronologically.
- g) We also get **6 miracles** we didn't know about; the **upper room** teachings ch.14-17; **And** we learn **over 90%** of John is **unique** to his gospel!!!

C. When it says He went about healing “*all kinds of disease*” applies to the **spiritual** as well as to the **mental & physical**.

1. His own words in connection with one of his own healings - **Read Jn.7:23**

D. **John 7:23** I made a man completely **whole**.

1. **Why are you angry with me for healing the whole man on the Sabbath?** (NIV)

2. I made **an entire man** well (NASB)

3. I have made **a man every whit whole** (KJV)

4. Greek **holos**, from where we get **holistic**.

5. Jesus was arguing, “if care for **one part** of the body was permitted, then certainly the healing of a **whole** body (that of the paralytic) should be allowed on the Sabbath.”

a) He dealt with the **whole** person. His supreme concern, man’s spiritual & moral malady.

E. It is our business to bring the *sin-sick*, face to face w/the **One Healer!**

1. To do this demands, we know **Him** & have a knowledge of **His methods**.

2. *He is the same yesterday, tomorrow & forever!*

## II. **JESUS PREINCARNATE! (1-5)**

A. **Jesus’ Relationship to THE FATHER!** (1,2)

B. **He is Eternal!** (He always existed)

C. As Mt. & Lk. give a **genealogy**, so John does here.

D. “John’s gospel starts out in heaven, w/a glimpse of the creator before He became Christ the man. But it doesn’t stay there; it brings heaven to earth. Because only in Christ’s coming could we be forgiven of our sins & brought near to Almighty God!” (Swindoll)

E. He introduces as “*The Word*”(logos) - He is one w/the very **being & mind** of God.

1. He is the **expression & intelligence & will & power** of God.

2. The fact that He is *the Word* of God shows us that He wants to **communicate with people!**

3. A **word** is composed of **letters**, & Christ is the *alpha & omega*(& includes every letter in-between) who spells out God’s love to us.

4. S.D.Gordon noted, “*Jesus is God spelling Himself out in language that men can understand!*”

5. God had been revealed **in part** through nature & history, **but now** is known **in full** through His Son.

- F. **He is God!** (not just God-like)
- G. **“a” god?** - J.W.’s insist the word translated God(*theos*) has no definite article so it should be “a god”.
1. They misquoted **Dr. Julius Mantey** (Gk. Scholar alive today). He tried to have them remove the misquote. He said...
  2. **“He said there is a indefinite article “a” before participles not nouns!”**
- H. **Jesus’ Relationship to THE WORLD!** (3-5)
- I. **He is Sole Creator!** (nothing exists that He didn’t make)
- J. You may not know this but at the bottom of the earth is a **signature** that says, **“Made by Jesus Christ!”** :-)
- K. Creation is the universal proof of the reality of God! It clearly testifies that an awesome Creator must exist!
1. **Sir Isaac Newton** showed this to an **atheistic** scientist friend 1 day. He came into Newtons study & saw a grand model of the **solar system**. He asked “who made it”, Newton said, “no one, it just happened!”. “I’m not a fool, there must be a designer!” Newton said, “This thing is but a **puny imitation** of a grander system & I am not able to convince you that this mere toy is w/o a designer & maker?”
- L. John comes out of the shoot with the fact hat the origin of our world is creation & not evolution.
1. A man’s view as to the **origin** of the **universe** fundamentally affects his **whole outlook** on human life & destiny.
  2. **The Christian view** of the universe leads to **ethical nobility & intelligent optimism**.
  3. **The evolutionary or atheistic view** necessarily & provenly leads to **moral deterioration & philosophic pessimism**.
- M. **The world was made through Him(10)** - i.e. It had **good purpose** not just **blind chance**.
1. Most who call themselves **atheist** are probably just trying to shield themselves from the discomfort of Gods acknowledged presence.
  2. **Real atheism**...how sterile, blank, mocking, useless it is. Everything & all of us, on the way **from nothing to nothing**.
  3. **Invite: What Darwin Didn’t Know Series!** Jan.7,14,21 {worship service this Wed}
- N. **He is Light & Life!** (His **life** gives **light** to everyone; the darkness can’t extinguish it)
- O. 1st creative act by God (Gen.1) was producing **light**, for **life** comes from **light**.

### III. **JESUS INCARNATE! (6-13)**

A. **JOHN!** (6-8)

B. **Bear witness** - "This gospel is a record of **testimony**, & shows that faith is belief founded upon **evidence!**" (Erdman)

1. What the **moon** is to the **sun**, so **John** is to **Jesus!**
2. The **moon** is the **lesser light** that **reflects** the **sunlight!**

C. Also **John** the author/apostle gives eye witness in vs.14 "and **we beheld His glory**".

D. (10,11) What sad verses.

1. **A General Electric ad raised the question: "What was Thomas Edison's biggest blunder?"** The ad reveals that **Edison** opposed the theory of alternating current developed by **Charles Steinmetz**. The ad concludes by stating that Steinmetz was almost refused admission at Ellis Island as an unfit immigrant. "One of the men most responsible for the electrification of America was almost **turned away at its gate.**"

a) A greater tragedy, however, takes place all the time. - **People turn Christ away on the doorstep of their lives** because they do not want Him to reign over their lives. **And just think of the light that He brings for our darkness!**

2. **In Wales** there is a village, **Beddgelert**, the name of which means "**The grave of Gelert**". There is a **famous legend** about this Gelert, which was a **dog**, the hound of Llewellyn the Great. One day, on returning to his castle, Llewellyn found his **child** lying dead, & the hound Gelert laying beside it. Llewellyn at once plunged his sword in to the poor animal, only to discover too late a huge **wolf** which had attacked the child, & which the **faithful hound** had slain. In his blind rage, Llewellyn had killed a faithful friend.

a) In a far more terrible sense, that is what all Christ-rejectors are doing today.

E. (12) But *the Gospel of John* isn't only about the **tragedy** of **unbelief**, it is also the **great drama** of *the unfolding of faith!*

F. **Received** - Let's imagine that this is a **bottle of medicine** has been proven unmistakably to be a **sure cure for coughing**. I therefore could give you my word that it is able to rid you of your cough. "What do you think? Could that medicine do you any good?" "**Not unless you take it!**" As effective as the cough medicine might be, its benefits would never be enjoyed unless you **took it**.

G. (13) **This new birth** is:

1. **Not of Blood** – by heredity or inheritance.
2. **Not of the will of the flesh** – by natural instinct.
3. **Nor of the will of man** – by human volition.
4. **But of God** – by the direct, supernatural exercise of divine power.

H. **End:** In the early 1800's, *President Andrew Jackson* issued a **full pardon** to **George Wilson**, a man sentenced to be hanged. Wilson refused it. **But** could he legally refuse the President's pardon? *Supreme Court Justice John Marshall* declared, "The value of the pardon depends upon its acceptance. If it is refused, it is no pardon. George Wilson must hang." **And Wilson was hanged.**

1. To pardon your sin, Christ shed His blood on the cross. The price was paid. **But each individual** must first **receive this forgiveness.**